U.S. Consulate General Yekaterinburg, Russia Security Message for U.S. Citizens – Security Message for U.S. Citizens: May 28 Border Guard Day Celebration May 28, 2015

U.S. Consulate General Yekaterinburg informs U.S. citizens that Thursday, May 28, 2015, is Border Guard Day in Russia. Traditionally on this day, current and former border guards gather in public parks to celebrate with their colleagues, friends, and family. Participants often wear uniforms, including green and white striped shirts, green berets, or green hats.

While the majority of these gatherings are peaceful, some past celebrations have been marred with unruly behavior such as public drunkenness and small-scale physical altercations. To help maintain public order this year, a supplemented police presence will likely be seen noticed in parks throughout the city of Yekaterinburg, including up to 3000 celebrants in Mayakovskovo Park, where large numbers of Border Guards typically gather.

As with all large gatherings, citizens are urged to review your personal security plans, maintain a low-profile, remain aware of your surroundings, including local events, and monitor local news stations for updates. Maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to enhance your personal security.

For more information:

- See the <u>State Department's travel website</u> for the <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and <u>Country-Specific Information Sheet for the Russian Federation</u>.
- Enroll in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (<u>STEP</u>) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- U.S. Consulate General Yekaterinburg: The U.S. Consulate General in Yekaterinburg is located at 15 Gogolya Street, Tel: +7 (343) 793-001, and is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. You may contact the Consulate's ACS Unit by e-mail at ConsulYekat@state.gov or by fax at +7 (343) 379-4515, or visit the Consulate's website at http://yekaterinburg.usconsulate.gov. For after-hours emergencies, you may call the Duty Officer at +7 (917) 569-3549.

- U.S. Embassy Moscow is located at 21 Novinsky Blvd., Moscow and is open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; telephone (7) (495) 728-5577. For after hours emergencies, please call (7) (495) 728-5000.
- U.S. Consulate General St. Petersburg is located at 15 Furshtatskaya Street and is open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; telephone (7) (812) 331-2600. For after hours emergencies, please call (812) 331-2600.
- U.S. Consulate General Vladivostok is located at 32 Pushkinskaya Street and is open Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; telephone (7) (4232) 30-00-70. For after hours emergencies, please call (7) (914) 791-0067.
- Call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.